

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claim 6 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 1-5, 7, and 8 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-8 are objected to because of informalities. Applicant herein amends the claims to correct the informalities and respectfully requests that the objection to claims 1-5, 7, and 8 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being non-statutory. Applicant has herein amended the claims and submits that both claims 1 and 2 define statutory subject matter. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection of claims 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner maintains that claims 3-8 are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice and notes that they appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors. Further the Examiner maintains that, regarding claim 3, the phrase "for example" renders the claim indefinite.

Applicant has herein amended claim 3 and revised the claim set to conform with standard U.S. practice. Therefore, Applicant submits that the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection of claims 3-5, 8 and 8 should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant has made the requested changes and submits that the amendments made herein to the claims are exclusively for clarification purposes and not for narrowing the claim set. Thus no equivalents are foreclosed by these non-narrowing amendments. Also, Applicant submits that this application should be in condition for allowance, as the recited features of claims 1-5, 7, and 8 have not been rejected over any prior art.

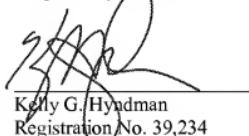
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/564,162

Attorney Docket No. Q92081

Applicant herewith petitions the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Unless a check is attached, any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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